

November 22, 2004

Dear Reference Material Customer,

The New Brunswick Laboratory regrets to inform you that we will not be able to ship reference materials until such a date in the future that the U.S. Congress passes the Department of Energy's fiscal year 2005 budget. Due to governmental accounting regulation, the New Brunswick Laboratory is unable to sell materials until the budget has been approved.

As we are unable to predict when the budget process will be completed we are not able to estimate the date on which we can resume reference material shipments. It may be as early as next month or as late as February or March of next year. We will keep you informed via our website (www.nbl.doe.gov) of any developments.

Rest assured that we will do everything we can to expedite your orders as soon as we are able to ship. In the meantime, you may continue to place orders with our sales department. Should you have an urgent need or questions, please contact me, at peter.mason@ch.doe.gov. I will address your questions as soon as possible.

Peter Mason Reference Materials Program Manager New Brunswick Laboratory